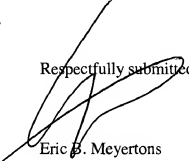


Remarks

Claims 5214-5268, 5270-5272, 5276-5333, 5335-5337, and 5341-5395 are currently pending. New claims 5344-5395 include features from previously presented claims. Claim 3303 has been cancelled. The Specification has been amended for clarification and/or for correction of typographical errors.

A fee authorization is enclosed to cover fees associated with filing a request for continued examination. If any additional fees are required or if fees have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5659-07400/EBM.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: 8-8-03

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 30, line 1 with the following amended paragraph:

“Hydrocarbons” are generally defined as molecules formed primarily by carbon and hydrogen atoms~~organic material that contains carbon and hydrogen in their molecular structures.~~ Hydrocarbons may also include other elements, such as, but not limited to, halogens, metallic elements, nitrogen, oxygen, and/or sulfur.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 53, line 20 with the following amended paragraph:

As shown in FIG. 3, in addition to heat sources 100, one or more production wells ~~102~~ 104 will typically be disposed within the portion of the coal formation. Formation fluids may be produced through production well 104. ~~Production well 102 may be configured such that a mixture that may include formation fluids may be produced through the production well.~~ Production well ~~102-104~~ 104 may also include a heat source. In this manner, the formation fluids may be maintained at a selected temperature throughout production, thereby allowing more or all of the formation fluids to be produced as vapors. Therefore high temperature pumping of liquids from the production well may be reduced or substantially eliminated, which in turn decreases production costs. Providing heating at or through the production well tends to: (1) ~~prevent~~ inhibit condensation and/or refluxing of production fluid when such production fluid is moving in the production well proximate to the overburden, (2) increase heat input into the formation, and/or (3) increase formation permeability at or proximate the production well.